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APPEAL

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NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE EXAMINER TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES		Docket Number (Optional) BEV 9	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231" on _____ Signature _____ Typed or printed name _____		In re Application of JOHN D. WATTS	
		Application Number 09/747,000	Filed 12-21-2000
		For THREADED PIPE CONNECTION METHOD	
		Group Art Unit 3726	Examiner NGUYEN, T. T.
Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the last decision of the examiner.			
The fee for this Notice of Appeal is (37 CFR 1.17(b))		\$ <u>310⁰⁰</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee shown above is reduced by half, and the resulting fee is:		\$ <u>155⁰⁰</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.		RECEIVED MAY 23 2003 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700	
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.			
<input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.			
<input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____ I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.			
<input type="checkbox"/> A petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22) is enclosed.			
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.			
I am the		 Signature JOHN D. WATTS Typed or printed name 5-20-2003 Date	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant/inventor.			
<input type="checkbox"/> assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)			
<input type="checkbox"/> attorney or agent of record.			
<input type="checkbox"/> attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a). Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(e) _____			
NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.			
<input type="checkbox"/> *Total of _____ forms are submitted.			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

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August 2001



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Patent Application
SN: 09/747,000
Filed: 12/21/2000
By: John D. Watts
For: Threaded Pipe Connection Method

Art Unit: 3726
Examiner: Nguyen, T.T.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Form PTO/SB/31 (02-01) has been completed and attached hereto, together with a check in the amount of \$155.00 in payment for the Notice of Appeal Fee. The owner remains a small entity.

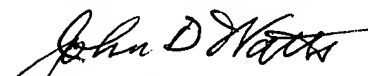
Applicant is concerned that the examiner does not appreciate the fact that the invention teaches the swaging of a thin pipe wall, as opposed to swaging of the full thickness pipe wall practiced by the prior art or record.

Swaging of the thin wall requires so much less force than swaging of the thick wall, that the swaging can be performed on the same standard lathe and with the same setup that the pre-swage forming and the finish threading is done on, which saves both time and reduces costs.

Examiner states that the invention is obvious, but in the 200 years of pipe threading in this country, no prior art was found in repeated searches, that taught (1) Thinning the pipe wall at the end to be threaded; (2) Swaging a portion of the thinned wall; (3) Forming threads on the thinned portion so as to increase the cross-section area at the critical section of the thread, and thereby provide a stronger pipe connection. This invention eliminates the need to heat the pipe end to the second critical temperature, swage the end in a large special machine, and the extra handling required.

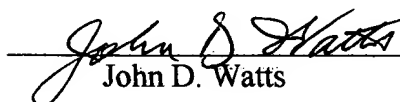
A complete Appeal Brief will be prepared and filed before July 15, 2003.

Respectfully Submitted,


John D. Watts
wedgethread@aol.com

8301 Guthrie, Austin, TX 78750-7852
phn(512)418-8668 fax(512)418-8633

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING: I hereby certify that this correspondence was posted with the US Postal Service on the date shown below in an envelope having sufficient postage for Priority Mail and addressed to: The Commissioner of Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1350.


John D. Watts

5-20-2003
Date